Dateline December 1, 1959

Good news from the Middle East is that Egypt and the Sudan have signed an agreement on the division of Nile waters which opens up the way for the building of the Aswan dam.

The Aswan development includes a huge power plant and irrigation facilities. Currently 32,000,000,000 cubic meters of Nile water are wasted by flowing into the Mediterranean. It is estimated that 10 billion of this will be lost by evaporation from the Aswan reservoir.

The construction will be largely financed by Soviet loans and engineered by Soviet personnel.

The 175th anniversary of American Methodism will be the subject of the CBS-TV program "Lamp Unto My Feet" on Sunday, December 13.

The program will describe the growth and development of the Methodist Church in the United States since it was organized in the historic "Christmas Conference" in Baltimore in 1784.

What are the national legislative issues on which Protestant churchmen will center major attention in 1960?

Recently a council made up of staff people from various denominational social action groups and staff representatives from the National Council of Churches met in Washington, D. C. to attempt a priority listing.

In a discussion of the key issues needing action, the group listed the following in the domestic area: *civil rights, migrants, aid to depressed areas,* housing, aid to education, farm problem, and civil liberties.

In the international field the group listed *disarmament* and *foreign eco-*

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CONTACT

sponsored jointly by three World Service agencies of The Methodist Church

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Dateline

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nomic aid as the issues on which they hoped to focus major church action.

Follow up conferences on domestic and international issues will be held in the future.

The listing is not exhaustive. Many Protestant groups will be seeking legislation in a larger number of issues, but the above have been agreed on for consideration by all.

Columbia university has announced the signing of an agreement with Moscow university for an exchange of professors. The agreement provides for an exchange of not more than five professors, who will have the opportunity to "acquaint themselves with research currently going on, engage in their own research, and participate in scholarly seminars, conferences, and teaching."

This agreement is one of the products of the Soviet-American cultural exchange agreed upon by the two governments in 1958. More specifically, it was achieved by Dr. Schuyler Wallace, director of Columbia's School of International Affairs, who visited Moscow last spring, and Gregory D. Vovchenko, vice-president of Moscow university, who came to Columbia to consummate the agreement.

The two universities are now in their second year of an exchange of graduate students. Harvard university is in the process of establishing an exchange of professors with Leningrad university.

The annual Protestant and Eastern Orthodox drive for funds to ship American surplus foods to hungry areas of the world opened with a special service in the Washington Cathedral last week.

A noted Anglican preacher, Canon Bryan Green, preached the sermon and representatives of the two sponsoring organizations—Church World Service, National Council of Churches, and the Council of Churches, National Capitol area—also took part.

The National Capital Service of Thanksgiving initiated a nationwide campaign for $865,210 to pay the transportation and distribution costs of 300 million pounds of surplus foods.

The Share-Our-Surplus program, Canon Green said, is "organized love," a charity organized efficiently to make dollars go farther. It involves "love that shares what it has, love that forgives, love that makes it possible to accept the unpleasant and the undesirable," he said.

The United States and the Soviet Union have signed a two-year agreement providing for broadened scientific, technical, educational, and cultural exchanges.

The agreement will bring more Americans to the USSR and more Soviet citizens to the United States for brief to fairly lengthy periods in 1960-1961, enabling citizens of both countries to learn more about each other.

The agreement provides for regularly scheduled radio and television appearances by American and Soviet government leaders, public figures, and artists. It also provides similarly scheduled exchanges of newsreels and documentaries and radio broadcasts on such non-controversial subjects as sports and public health.

The University of Massachusetts welcomed its 6,000 students back to a dry campus this year. Drinking has been banned from the once free-flowing fraternities.

With a no-drinking vote of 431 to 31, the faculty pointed out that the students at the university are boys, not men.

"Back in the '40's when most of the students were returning servicemen, nobody was going to tell them they couldn't drink," the professors observed. "But these boys are a lot younger and the law in Massachusetts says no one under 21 can be served intoxicants."

Amherst Police Chief Francis E. Hart heartily approved the ban. He had previously watched arrests for drunkenness in the town zoom as soon as college opened each fall.

TEMPERANCE

If you drive like crazy, here's something that may make you stop.

A new film called STOP DRIVING US CRAZY has just been released.

It's a 10 minute color cartoon aimed at getting teenage church and school groups thinking and talking. The subject: How religious faith applies to driving a car.

The film was produced by the General Board of Temperance in consultation with the President's Committee for Traffic Safety and the National Safety Council.

A special committee of religious leaders has recently joined these groups in a renewed effort to reduce the nation's traffic death toll.

"STOP DRIVING US CRAZY is a unique experiment in church films," says Dr. Caradine R. Hooton, general secretary.

"This is the first animated film produced by a Methodist agency," Dr. Hooton points out. "It presents a serious and important subject in an entertaining way, thus setting the stage for friendly discussion."

The film features top talent from the worlds of television, music, and films.

Benny Golson, considered a "new Duke Ellington" by many modern jazz fans, wrote the musical score.

Art Blakey and the Jazz Messengers recorded the music. Blakey is a leading jazz drummer, under contract to Blue Note records.

Howard Morris, best known as the "little guy" on the original Sid Caesar show and for his regular appearances on Pantomime Quiz, created the voices for the sound track.

The film tells the story of Rusty, a little creature from Mars who looks like a car. Rusty can't communicate with "two legs," only to "beings who look like me, called cars."

Rusty finds that earth people talk a lot about loving one another, being

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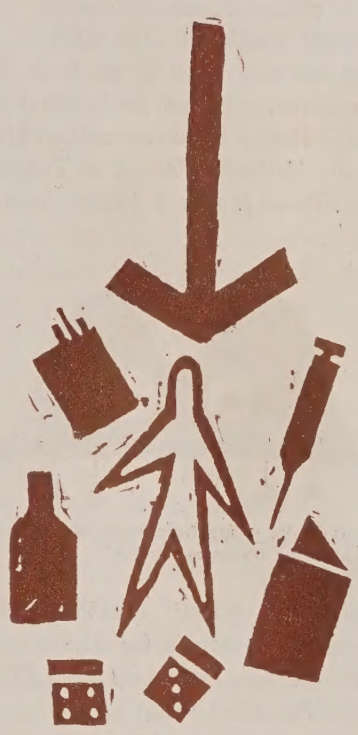


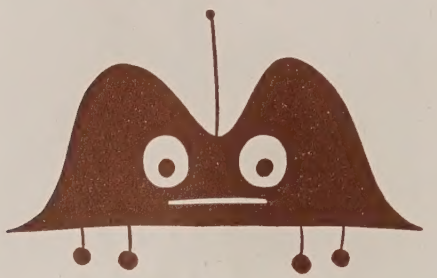
TEMPERANCE

(continued from page 3)

your brother's keeper and respecting the rights of others. But at the wheel of a car they "say one thing and do another." Rusty gets captured by a "two legs" and finds out the hard way.

A leader's guide to help get discussion started accompanies each print of the film.

STOP DRIVING US CRAZY is available for rental at $6 from the film libraries of the Methodist Publishing House. Prints are sold at $125 by the Methodist Board of Temperance. There is also a 45 rpm record



This is Rusty, a spy from Mars. He can only talk to cars, "creatures like me."

"Music to STOP DRIVING US CRAZY." This sells for $1.25.

Here's how you can use STOP DRIVING US CRAZY:

Conference chairmen

(1) Write the cost of a print of this film into your board budget. Place the print in your conference film library or arrange to distribute it through whatever facilities are available. Get the free leader's guides to include with each film shipment.

(2) Announce the availability of the film through mailings and meetings. Mail and pass out the free literature available from the General Board of Temperance.

(3) Talk over the use of the film in training enterprises beyond the local church with Board of Education leaders.

(4) Use the film as a part of your conference board program at annual conference. Pass out promotional literature at the conference session.

District directors

(1) If your district has a film library, help find funds to purchase

"Thou shalt not kill," people say. But Rusty sees that drivers ignore these words.

a print. Announce its availability through a district wide mailing.

(2) Alert all your directors and also the directors of Christian education in the district to the program possibilities for local church use.

(3) Arrange for preview screenings of the film at as many district events as possible. If a preview is not possible, announce its availability and distribute free literature.

(4) Use the film in your own church.

Local church chairmen

(1) Urge your conference or district film library to stock STOP DRIVING US CRAZY as a supplement to the Methodist Publishing House. If not available from conference or district, rent the film from the Methodist Publishing House.

Dismayed, Rusty says, "I'm leaving!" at the end of the film. "But where are you going?"

(2) Set up a special screening for church school teachers at a meeting of the Commission on Education. Pass out free leader's guides and discuss possible uses of the film in church school classes.

(3) Urge the organized groups of the church, WSCS, MYF, Methodist Men, and so forth to set aside an evening for discussion of driving and the Christian faith, using this film to kick off the discussion.

(4) Plan a family night program on safe driving. Invite safety experts to talk. Use the film to kick off a discussion.

(5) Urge the local high school to show the film in an assembly period, followed by a talk by a traffic officer. Suggest its use in driver training classes.

Canada and Finland study alcohol problems

Canada and Finland are studying each other's alcoholism problems on an exchange basis.

Esko Koura, a research worker from Finland, is spending six months in Canada. A Canadian, Robert E. Popham, is visiting Finland to study that country's drinking problems.

The approach to the problem differs in the two countries. In Canada the prime concern is rehabilitation of the alcoholic and prevention of the addiction.

The Finns are more concerned with the social damages resulting from drinking Mr. Koura said.

One major problem in Finland is the "spree drinking" when loggers come out of the woods for week-long sprees in town. Koura will study the methods used in combating the alcoholism problem here, and will visit Finns who have settled in Canada to compare their drinking patterns with those in Finland.

The Canadian who went to Finland is concerned with statistical matters, particularly the techniques of estimating the number of alcoholics in a community.

Alcoholics in industry: $1,000,000,000 headache

Thirty-six top businessmen in the four-county San Francisco Bay area recently launched a program to combat an annual $60 million loss caused by alcoholic employees.

These alcohol-induced losses in the San Francisco area are only six per cent of the total cost of alcoholism throughout American industry. Most estimates set industrial alcoholism costs at more than $1 billion yearly.

These losses accumulate as drinking employees skip work, cause accidents, or do their jobs improperly. Numerous examples of alcohol's aftermath in industry have been cited.

A Texas oil refinery worker started his job with a hangover one day. When he turned the wrong valve, he wasted a large amount of oil. The mistake cost the company $50,000.

According to a study by Dr. Harold A. Mulford, director of the Iowa Alcoholism Studies, employers in the Cedar Rapids area are losing 123 years of work time annually because of alcoholism.

A recent study by the Yale Center of Alcohol Studies showed that problem drinkers among 10,000 employees of one major American industry were absent from their jobs two-and-a-half times more days than other employees. The drinkers cost the company three times more in sickness benefits and had almost four times more accidents.

The supervisor of a large utility's motor fleet began disappearing on drinking binges and frequently came back unable to do his job properly. Resulting foul-ups cost the company an estimated $4,000 each binge.

Working hours wasted

On a national scale, approximately two per cent of all workers in the United States are problem drinkers. The 36 million man-days lost yearly by these workers is more than double the time lost by U. S. workers in strikes during 1957.

But industry's chief problem is the "hidden" alcoholic, according to Yale researchers. These persons do not exhibit the personal and social disorganization held to be typical of alcoholics, and they are able to appear as normal workers.

Discovery of these alcoholics is a major part of most alcoholism programs. Fellow-workers' refusal to point out problem drinkers, supervisors' reluctance to reveal names of alcoholics, and the slow pace at

which drinking signs appear, make the discovery of alcoholics a difficult task.

Companies sponsor programs

In the past 10 years industry has begun to develop three types of programs to deal with alcoholism: (1) clinics outside of the industry, but sponsored by the industry; (2) community clinics partly sponsored by the industry; (3) programs developed around Alcoholics Anonymous, through the company medical department or a specialized counselor for alcoholics.

The Du Pont Company centers its program around a campaign to get alcoholism in the open and encourage problem drinkers to recognize—and attempt to correct—their illness. A full time employee, a member of AA, directs the program.

The company claims that over the last 15 years more than half of the 1,254 employees who were once alcoholics have been cured and another 20 per cent have shown some improvement.

The General Electric Company carries on a plant-wide program for rehabilitation. When investigation does reveal an alcoholic employee, the industrial physicians together with the family doctor work with the employee. Then the worker is put in contact with a local chapter of AA.

Allis-Chalmers established an alcoholic rehabilitation program for its workers 11 years ago. The company estimates an annual saving of $80,000 due to the program.

Treatment in most industrial clinics consists mainly of individual psychiatric therapy; group psychotherapy in which about 12 patients may discuss their problems; treatment with such drugs as disulfiram; referral to AA; and hospitalization in the acute cases.

Unions also concerned

Along with the management programs, unions have also been broadening their efforts to discover and aid the worker with a drinking problem. Leo Perlis, director of A.F.L.-C.I.O. Community Service Activities, says that the union has a "singular responsibility to help all its members by helping its alcoholic members."

Harrison M. Trice, assistant professor of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University, who wrote *The Problem Drinker on the Job*, recently said that he feels rehabilitative efforts by industry "are just beginning."

He suggests that more companies urge their medical personnel to investigate the problem, encourage participation by unions, and effect training methods which treat alcoholism as an illness.

"Through techniques such as these," Trice says, "management has an opportunity to play a major part in a widespread attack on a severe public health problem."

. . . *miscellany* . . .

In Pasadena, Calif., city directors don't find alcoholism amusing, but they got a chuckle out of an invitation to attend a dinner meeting of the Pasadena Committee on Alcoholism.

The topic of the meeting was "Industry's Billion-Dollar Headache," which was presented by a panel of experts on alcoholism.

"Dinner at 7 p.m.," the invitation read, "Cocktails at 6."

In Leipzig, Germany, a brewer wants to sell Americans on the idea of drinking beer out of square bottles which later can be used as glass bricks.

He suggests the slogan: "Build your house with beer."

The bottles, which will be available in white, brown, and green, can also be used to build a glass wall or insulate a garage floor, the brewer points out.

In Denver, Colo., Cecil F. Heftel, president-general manager of radio station KIMN, suspended one of his disc jockeys for making smutty and suggestive statements during his show.

Under U.S. Criminal Code, obscenity on the air is a criminal violation. The FCC can take action when it feels that broadcasts are against the public interest.

In Massachusetts, a new health directory aids the fight against alcoholism.

The "Classified and Alphabetical Directory of Agencies Serving Alcoholics and Their Relatives in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts" is the only known publication of its type in existence.

Distribution of approximately 20,000 copies will be mailed to all state physicians, clergy, care-taking agents, public health nurses, probation and parole officers, public welfare workers and all hospitals and police departments.

In Hollywood, Louella O. Parsons, columnist, has opposed Darryl Zanuck's purchase of Irving Wallace's *Chapman Report.* Zanick is purchasing the book for his son to make into a movie.

The *Chapman Report* gives the sex habits of women as seen by surveys before Dr. Kinsey. Zanuck productions paid Wallace $175,000 plus 5 per cent of the world gross for the movie rights. Louella Parsons noted that Zanick must think that he has a hit in the making.

In Chicago, *Playboy,* one of the first "sophisticated" men's magazines dealing in sex, will begin a weekly TV series called "Playboy's Penthouse."

Carried by WBKB, Chicago ABC outlet, the program will feature guest stars, male fashions, food and drink, sports cars, hi-fi, and *Playboy's* Playmates of-the-month.

In Milwaukee, North Central Airlines recently launched the first "beer flights," making Pabst Blue Ribbon beer available to passengers on six convair flights daily.

A reporter for the *American Brewer* magazine described the big event this way:

"As far as can be determined, it marks another advance over the Russians.

"Pretty Lizzi Erika Schwanke, 21-year-old stewardess of North Central

Airlines, poised daintily atop an old-fashioned beer wagon and poured a schooner of brew on the radar nose of an appreciative Convair. Scores cheered and a German band struck up something with a great number of 'oomphas' in it.

"It was a moving ceremony. . . ."

In South Africa, the penality for drunken driving runs up to a $2,800 fine, ten years in prison, or both.

by *Caradine R. Hooton*

It is good to be "thankful for a bed, with a roof overhead, and a window that opens to the sky, and a door with a latch that is easy to catch the hand of a friend passing by." How grateful are we to belong to a church that expects its members to transform their

beliefs into behavior,
concerns into commitments,
decisions into disciplines,

and enlightenment into enlistment?

The pressures for social drinking, gambling, pornography, and narcotic addiction pose a real problem at this Christmastide. Will any of these be allowed to lift another sign of "no-room-in-the-inn" for Him?

Commitment Day can prepare our people for a greater appreciation of the real significance and tremendous possibilities of a "Christmas-For-Christ."

Some pastors ask: *I have a Sunday School teacher in my church who drinks, and I think he has yet to teach a temperance lesson. What should I do?*

After much prayer this pastor should so cultivate the teacher that this matter can be approached and discussed with friendly forthrightness. The teacher probably knows that he should not drink and realizes that his avoidance of temperance lessons is not helpful to his class. What he needs is instruction, inspiration, and good literature.

In answer to the question, "Should parents give permission for their eleven-year-old sons to smoke," columnist Ann Landers says: "These people have cornflakes where their brains belong. If their sons wanted to drink wood alcohol and carry a gun, would they give them permission to do it 'in front of them rather than behind their backs'? When parents don't know how (or haven't the courage) to say *NO* to their children, they are abdicating their responsibilities."

WORLD PEACE

The following monthly outline is offered to ministers and laymen as a means of enriching meetings of Methodist Men at the point of world peace. The topics are interchangeable, that is, the program suggested for November could be used in January.

A peace outline for Methodist Men

November

Theme: Issues before the fourteenth General Assembly of the United Nations.

Program: Obtain for 50 cents each from the Board of World Peace six copies of the 170 page booklet "Issues Before the fourteenth General Assembly," and assign to six members five minute talks on the following themes: Algeria, Dependent Peoples, Economic Questions, Human Rights, Refugees, and Legal Questions.

If someone in the group has visited the UN, let him give his impressions of the headquarters building and any meetings he attended.

Action: Let the group discuss whether it would like to buy a United Nations flag for occasional or continuous display in the church.

December

Theme: The World Refugee Year.

Program: Order from the Board of World Peace the World Refugee Year packet for $1, and on the basis of its contents assign to three members short talks on the refugee situation, the nature of the World Refugee Year, and what Methodists can do for refugees. A 14 minute film, "We Very Much Regret," on European refugees may be rented for $4 from Contemporary Films, 267 West 25th St., New York, N. Y.

Action: Discuss the merits of Methodist Men sponsoring a refugee family through the Methodist Committee on Overseas Relief, 475 Riverside Drive, New York 27, and taking an offering for those still in camps. The Christmas story tells us that there was no room for Joseph and Mary in the inn.

January

Theme: Spiritual Values in Foreign Travel.

Program: Ask a minister or layman who has traveled abroad in recent years to share with Methodist Men his pictures and experiences. Ask him especially to answer the question: "How may travel abroad help bring world peace and advance God's kingdom?"

Action: Distribute to members the leaflet "World Peace Study Tour for 1960" obtainable from the Board of World Peace without charge. It would be wise for Methodist Men to encourage one of their number and the minister to go on this tour.

February

Theme: The Nationwide Program for Peace.

Program: Ask a layman or minister from your district or conference who was a delegate to the Fifth World Order Study Conference in Cleveland to relate his experiences.

Since two-thirds of the delegates were laymen, it was in a real sense a laymen's peace conference! If you do not know the name of a nearby delegate, write to the Board of World Peace for suggestions.

This conference was the beginning of a Nationwide Program for Peace under the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches. The Program reaches

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WORLD PEACE

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all Protestant local churches between January and June, 1960.

Action: Order for 35 cents each a dozen or more copies of "Christian Responsibility on a Changing Planet," the findings of the Cleveland conference, and sell them to Methodist Men.

March

Theme: Disarmament.

Program: Order four disarmament packets at $1 each from the Board of World Peace and on the basis of this material have four men speak concisely on: the history of disarmament between 1900 and 1955, recent steps toward disarmament by the USSR and the United States, can we trust the Russians?, and economic aspects of disarmament.

Action: Use Opinion Scales on disarmament to test the thinking of the group on this subject. They may be obtained from the Board of World Peace, 35 for $1.

April

Theme: The China Issue.

Program: The chairman of the program should read in the meeting one or more of the paragraphs concerning the People's Republic of China in "Christian Responsibility on a Changing Planet." They are to be found on pages 22, 27, 36, and 55.

After this the Opinion Scale on China should be used in order that every man may both express his view and listen to the views of others on seven possible policies concerning China. These scales may be ordered from the Board of World Peace, 35 for $1.

If the chairman wishes to be well prepared for this meeting, he may obtain from the Board of World Peace a China packet for $1.

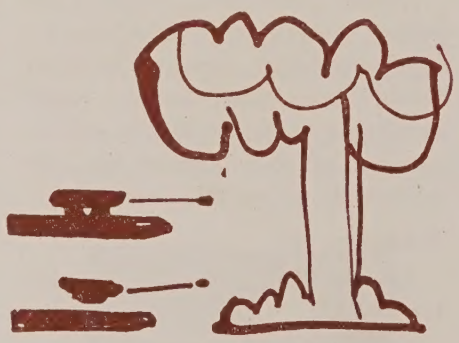
Action: Send the results of the "voting" on the seven policies to Mr. Harry Seamans, Department of State, Washington 25, D. C. He is a Methodist layman whose official responsibility relates to the thinking of churchmen on foreign policy.

May—*Theme:* World Economic Development.

Program: Assign to a panel of four men a discussion of the theme. They might prepare themselves on such specialized subjects as the dramatic increase of the population of the world, the problem of surplus food in a few nations and undernourishment in many, the increasing competition between the economic programs of China and of India, the work of the World Bank, and the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN.

Information on these subjects may be obtained from the $1 packet on World Economic Development obtainable from the Board of World Peace.

Action: Discuss what the U. S. government or the UN should do concerning the theme. Some suggestions art to be found on pages 40 to 45 of "Christian Responsibility on a Changing Planet." Send the substance of your agreement to your U. S. representative and your two senators.



• In recent months the Army seems to have launched a campaign to win acceptance for the use of biological weapons in future wars. In June of this year a retired General wrote in Harper's:

"If we are forced into a war with Soviet Russia or Communist China, we will have a much greater advantage if we do use these weapons. We will be fighting far greater numerical forces, a situation for which chemical and biological weapons are ideally suited. . . . We must make it clear that we consider these weapons among the normal, usable means of war . . ."

Human Rights Day celebrated December 10

On December 10, 1948, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted without a dissenting vote the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This short document of 30 tersely written articles will be honored in human history along with the Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights.

Methodists should know its contents. They should consider whether any practices in their community, or nation, or world violate its high standards.

At the December meeting of his official Board the chairman of the Commission on Christian Social Relations might include a reference to the significance of December 10, distribute copies of the Declaration to Board members, and call attention to certain significant articles, such as 1, 3, 16, and 26.

Copies of the Declaration may be purchased from the Board of World Peace for 10 cents each, or 20 for $1.

Jinske leads Methodists on United Nations tour

In early October a bus load of Methodists from the North Arkansas Conference journeyed to New York city and for three days had happy and enriching experiences at the United Nations.

Not only did they see the 14th General Assembly transacting its business, but when they returned home they found churches and service clubs eager to hear their story.

Rev. Henry Jinske, chairman of the Board of World Peace of the North Arkansas Conference, who directed the tour in cooperation with Dr. Charles Boss of the New York office, has written:

"This seminar and the follow up in the conference is the best peace education program we have ever had. The ministers, laymen, and laywomen in the seminar are speaking in

churches, schools, and civic clubs all over the conference.

"The trip has done more to motivate interest in peace than anything we have ever done. It has been my privilege to speak in four churches and one civic club during the last three weeks."

Three young men faced refugee problem

If you have ever been discouraged concerning the futility of peace work in your church, town, or organization, consider how the World Refugee Year began.

Three British youths went to Europe and noted conditions in refugee camps. They were Colin Jones, Trevor Philpott, and Christopher Chataway, the famous Olympic three-miler who paced Roger Bannister to the first achievement of the four-minute mile.

Returning to England in the spring of 1958 they published in *Crossbow* an appeal, "Wanted: A World Refugee Year." After describing the plight of refugees in Europe, the Middle East, and Hong Kong, they said:

"There exists here an opportunity both for the Conservative Party and for Britain. We believe that opportunity to lie in the declaration of a World Refugee Year.

"With the satellites circling and the tractors chugging through the Antarctic, the International Geophysical Year is producing scientific advances. On a much smaller outlay a World Refugee Year could yield incomparable dividends in human happiness."

With some initial reluctance and later enthusiasm the British government accepted the proposal and sponsored it at the thirteenth General Assembly in the fall of 1958. Fifty-nine nations supported the idea and shortly after Christmas the United Nations called for a Refugee Year between June, 1959, and June, 1960.

Thus far 63 governments have indicated that they expect to do something special for refugees during this year.

The original eloquent and descriptive appeal of the three British youths may be obtained from the Board of World Peace for 25 cents. It is included in the World Refugee Packet selling for $1.

"This Will Keep Out Foreign Salesmen"

Program suggestion: study political action

The newspapers are filled with references to the presidential candidates in the Republican and Democratic parties. During the months between sessions of Congress these candidates are making many trips and speeches.

Voting is a Christian concern. But it is also wise to help good candidates get the nomination of their party. How can a Commission on Christian Social Relations do the right thing in this respect?

During the coming months, before the conventions are held, it will be possible to discuss the merits of candidates without emotional involvement. Different persons on the commission might be asked to study the background, beliefs, and personality of various candidates.

Their reports might be brought to a meeting of the commission or to a larger group in the church. Such research would help the person, the commission, and the church.

by *Daniel E. Taylor*

Lack of coordination and united support is the chief weakness of the peace movement. Therefore, it is encouraging to see several important groups seriously taking up the problem of disarmament.

The Consultative Peace Council, composed of a dozen agencies, is forming a special committee for a disarmament drive in 1960, with Dr. John Swomley as executive director.

The Committee on World Disarmament and Development is planning a national convocation in New York City in a few weeks to review thoroughly disarmament proposals and to suggest practical steps. SANE will continue to work at the problem, especially from the test ban standpoint.

Fortunately, a perusal of disarmament possibilities fits naturally into the current Nation-Wide Program for Peace. One study section deals with arms problems.

Another type of united endeavor is the annual Churchmen's Washington Seminar to be held in Washington, D. C. February 16-19. A quota of 60 Methodists is permitted, with total attendance limited to 300 persons. Someone from your annual conference and your state should attend. Why not you? Write our office for a folder. Noteworthy leadership makes the program even more attractive.

Meanwhile, winter months begin the recurrent series of important convocations, usually in Washington, D. C., such as National Conference of the American Association for the United Nations. Annual conference leaders should deliberately plan and encourage key Methodists' participation in a dozen such significant enterprises open to our people each year.

WORLD PEACE

Social values seen in some 1959 movies

Robert Crosby, staff member of the Board of Education of the Detroit conference, believes that we should be alert to hidden insights in movies. He makes the following comments about films which have been popular in 1959:

A Time to Love, a Time to Die—This is a story which takes one inside the life of a German soldier in World War II. He comes face to face with the hard reality that Germany is to be defeated. While home on a leave he visits a professor who has been silenced by the military.

He asks his teacher, "How can you have faith in God when the world is like it is?" The reply is, "God is not responsible to us, but we are responsible to him."

The last five minutes of the picture illustrate in a very striking way the futility of war and the tragic alienation between man and man.

The Young Lions — This is a story that takes one inside the life of a German youth during World War II and two American youth. We see vividly the idealistic enthusiasms of German youth from about 1938 until the German defeat. The closing part causes the audience to be identified with the German youth and the American Jew, against whom much anti-semitism has been directed by fellow Americans.

The Defiant Ones — This is a story of a Negro and a white prisoner who are chained together in a prison truck. Through an accident they escape from their guards. The rest of the picture is a drama of the alienation between these two persons and a gradual reconciliation.

This would be an excellent movie for an M.Y.F. group. Members should attend as a body and return to the church for a discussion.

I Want to Live—This is the story of a woman who has been condemned to death for a crime. One suspects that she is innocent, yet the facts cause her to be judged guilty and condemned to death in a gas chamber.

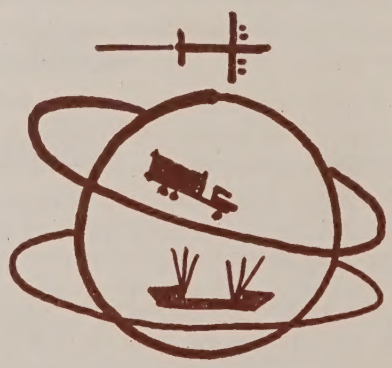
After seeing this picture it would be most effective, if a church group would return to its church and discuss this film in terms of the moral or immoral implications of capital punishment. It presents a strong case against capital punishment, regardless of innocence or guilt.

Carribbean study tour planned for next summer

Plans are now being completed for a study tour of the Caribbean area by a selected group of Methodists interested in the problems of Latin America and related aspects of American foreign policy.

Under the leadership of Herman Will, Jr., administrative secretary, the Board of World Peace will sponsor a group of 15 to 20 persons—ministers, laymen, women, and students—which will visit six to eight countries in the Caribbean area in the summer of 1960. Among the countries to be included in the itinerary are Cuba, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Panama, Mexico, and possibly Jamaica and Guatemala.

The study tour will begin with a



day of briefing at the State Department in Washington the third week of July and will end the latter part of the third week of August. The exact dates and cost have not yet been fixed, but will be available during the next few weeks.

Inquiries and applications should be directed to Herman Will, Jr., 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Ill.

Opinion Scales discuss controversial issues

The Board of World Peace has *Opinion Scales* available for discussions in local churches on controversial issues. A set of *Opinion Scales* deals with the following issues: "Disarmament," "How to Deal with Communists," "National Security," "United Nations," and "China."

Six or seven possible positions are indicated on each issue. They range from the most "conservative" to the most "radical." The members of a group are invited to give all the reasons they can think of in support of each position.

Before and after this discussion the

leader may ask for a secret ballot on the positions to see whether the discussion has affected any change in the judgment of the members.

The set of *Opinion Scales* includes instructions concerning their use and sells for 25 cents.

What Commission is sponsoring prayer vigils? What plans are being used? What materials do you find valuable? Would you not like to share your plans with others? The Board of World Peace has received inquiries concerning good plans. Will you send Carl Soule your comments?

• "There is something crooked about a generation that speaks glibly about peace, while at the same time it spends $40 million a year in training its choicest youth in the arts of scientific and military slaughter."—Dr. Edwin Dahlberg, President, National Council of Churches.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Our contacts in the Gary, Ind. area indicate that steel workers were most happy to return to their jobs last week. Estimates are that more than 20,000 people left this area for work elsewhere during the strike.

Two of the steel mills found it necessary to seek new workers by advertising in the newspapers.

But the steel strike is not settled. It is just being postponed. We have written in these columns several times before, voicing our concern for what is happening to collective bargaining in this strike.

We are still concerned and we still urge the parties involved to reach agreement without further delay.

We strongly believe that labor, while having the responsibility to protect workers and jobs, must not stand in the way of technological progress.

We see no reason why labor in the steel industry cannot talk over the controversial work rules. We also believe that steel management knows better than to suggest that labor agree with the whole-sale elimination of work rules and practices which have been built up over a long period of years. Technological change and automation are bound to bring changes in the contractual relationships between labor and management.

Therefore we call for a maturity in the willingness on the part of both parties to talk over, to experiment with, and to explore ways to meet these new technological changes without resorting to long work stoppages.

We note with full approval the efforts of one of the large meat packers in the United States. This company set aside some $500,000 to examine all possible approaches and solutions to the issues of automation, displaced workers, and job security within that industry. If a big

(continued on page 12)

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS

(continued from page 11)

meat packer can do this, so can big steel.

The consequence of not resolving this steel dispute by January 25, 1960, can be most significant for organized labor's future. The second walkout is asking for quick Congressional action which could readily take the turn of being restrictive or even punitive in nature.

A second walkout also could easily split steel labor into two warring factions. MacDonald's leadership can be placed in even greater jeopardy than it is at the moment. This has not been exactly a popular strike with the steelworkers themselves.

We don't want it!

As one steel worker who has returned to his job just recently said in Gary, Ind.: "We've had it and we don't want it again."

The failure of both sides to bargain to an acceptable agreement and this long work stoppage of nearly four months duration certainly strengthens the conviction that our kind of society cannot any longer put up with this kind of dispute.

We must find alternatives to the use of the strike weapon. And we hope that this can be done within the framework of free collective bargaining; without resorting to government dictate and control.

The continued failure of labor and management to conduct their own business invites the government to settle things for them. With continued failure we can expect pressure for the formation of fact finding committees with powers to evaluate and recommend extension of the National Labor Relations Board into labor courts.

Compulsory arbitration?

One also cannot ignore the likelihood of pressure for compulsory arbitration even though it is not wanted by either of the parties concerned. The final extreme possibility would be government regulation and control of wage scales and prices. These are all possibilities if labor and management cannot straighten out their own difficulties.

This strike has been a costly one in the terms of tax losses to our federal government. According to estimates, some $750 million will not be collected in the personal income and corporation taxes for this fiscal year.

In terms of loss of income to our economy, conservative estimates say that well over $5,000,000,000 will never be recovered. No one wins any longer in the strike situation. Not only is business hurt by its losses, not only is the wage-earner hurt by no earnings for the duration of the work stoppage, but the health of economy is gravely endangered when billions of dollars are lost and can never be recouped because of this kind of dispute.

Labor and management must put their houses in order and cooperate with one another or they are asking for somebody else to do it for them.

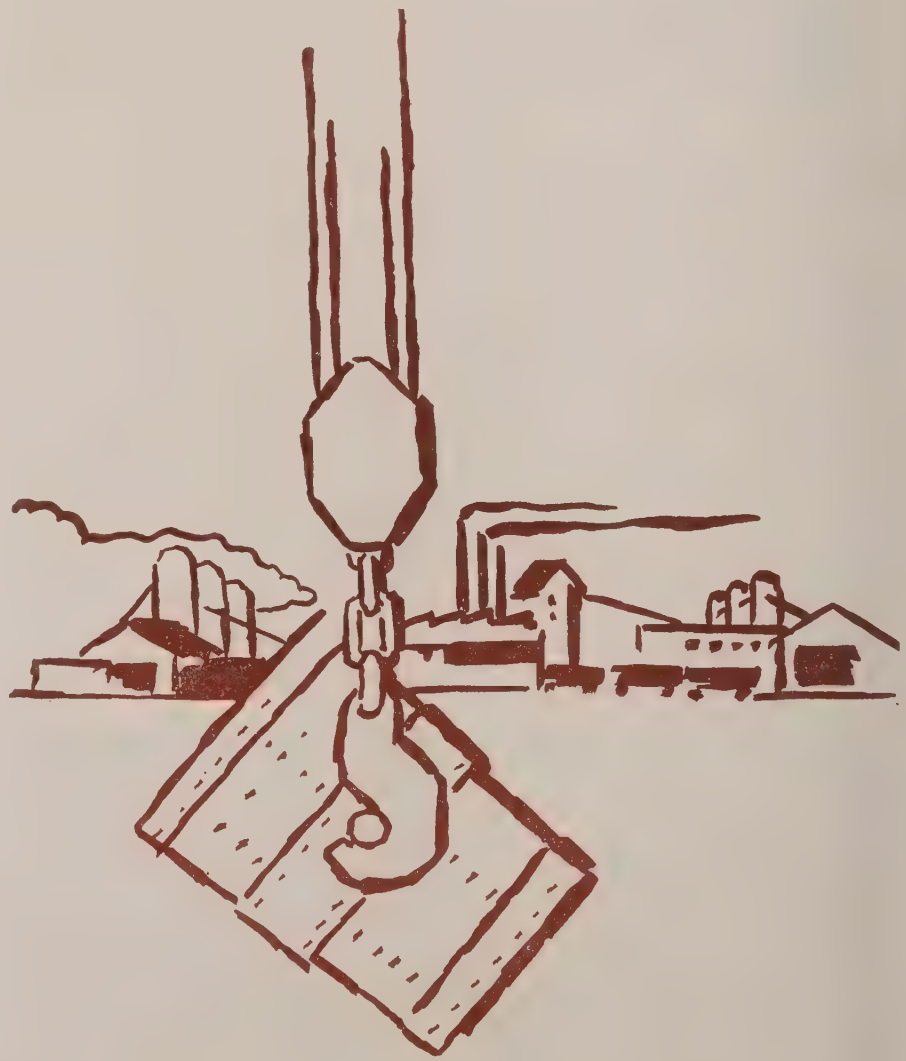
An alternative to: the high cost of dying

It is generally true that clergy the country over feel that funeral costs are much too high, contain many elements hardly Christian, and that something ought to be done about it.

One interesting alternative to the barbaric customs of the past is the plan of the People's Memorial association of the West Coast in the state of Washington.

Over 5,000 members have joined this group. For $100 it provides for removal of the body, cremation, and a memorial service.

This is about one-third the cost of the average funeral in the region of the country where the writer presently resides.



The People's Memorial association has an affiliation with the Group Health Credit Union permitting members of the association to allocate $100 of their credit union savings for their membership.

This permits the $100 deposited for cremation and service to draw three to three-and-one-half per cent interest in the credit union as well as building up an equivalent amount of life insurance.

Leslie W. Tostevan, 214 East Boston Street, Seattle, Wash., is Secretary of this association.

We hope that interest might be stimulated in other parts of the country to develop similar patterns to that of the People's Memorial association.

What is your thinking on this matter?

... did you know ...

• that unemployment in allied industries other than steel has amounted to a grand total of some 450,000 workers to date, and will continue at this number for some time until basic steel can be delivered to industry?

• that nearly half of Cook County's $4 million monthly aid paid to dependent families goes to support children born out of wedlock . . . that aid to dependent children is paid to more than 200,000 illegitimate births per year?

• that at the Northeastern Regional Briefing Conference held at Buck Hill Falls, Pa., October 27, Victor Reuther told the Methodists gathered from 12 states for this meeting that "labor unions and the Church have much in common and should work more closely together?"

"The program of the Church should be carried right into the shops, mines, and mills," he said. "Ministers probably would win more converts this way than in just preaching from their pulpits."

Released time: a local church study

The General Board of Social and Economic Relations has advocated constantly that local church commissions study specific issues and come to a judgment. This will help the members of the local church and serve the wider church as increasingly judgments emerge from the "grass roots."

Examples of such an effort are the *Progress* and *Balance Sheet* reports from the commission of the Silverado Methodist Church, Long Beach, Calif.:

"Enclosed is our 1959 statement about released time which our commission personnel have studied for some 18 months.

"Since this type of religious education seems to be favored by many faiths it may be that you will be more interested in statements favorable to released time then those opposing it. However, since in the course of history churches have been mistaken in movements that they favored, it is, as I am sure you will recognize, well to examine continuously all aspects of this question.

"We present this with no prejudice toward the National Council of Churches, which usually sponsors released time nor any of its subdivisions, nor any other groups in the Methodist Church or out of it, nor persons involved in them.

Re-thinking needed

"We are pledged to support as we are able, the church through all of its organizations as it seeks to have a positive voice in the affairs of our communities, state and nation. But we believe released time is one of the activities that should be re-thought.

"We respect those involved in released time for their interest and zeal in this phase of our youth's Christian education, but we must say that in view of the facts available, the effectiveness and suitability of this type of religious education is not yet established. In evidence of this we have documented our report with references well worth your examination.

"As church people raised in Protestantism and who have raised or are raising our children in the church; as church members who have given years and still serve in crucial church positions we have not arrived at these conclusions carelessly nor set them down here without much thought. We invite your consideration of our statement and your comments about it.

Progress report

"In 1958 the Committee To Study Released Time, appointed by the Commission on Education of the Silverado Methodist Church, Long Beach, Calif., issued a statement of its findings concerning released time religious education. The committee's generalization was that it believed released time to be inconsistent with the separation of church and state. Seven additional points were stated:

"(1) Inroads into the separation of church and state must be curtailed.

"(2) Released time encourages these inroads by legalizing the use of public school time for the teaching of religious beliefs.

"(3) It is possible that released time may grow until it deprives children of more of the time necessary for established academic needs.

"(4) Released time further handicaps the school program because no new work can be effectively offered to pupils not participating in released time.

"(5) The use of school time by churches may set a precedent so that other organizations may require school time for their interests also.

"(6) No factual data have yet

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been cited to show the educational value of released time.

"(7) Several church faiths as well as ministers, laymen and other church leaders do not believe released time is the appropriate method for religious education.

Academic needs harmed

"That released time may deprive children of time needed for academic study is reflected in the thinking of some who would utilize up to five hours of school time per week for religious education and would have the schools develop no new work during this time.

"That the principle of released time is unsound is supported by the Baptists in Virginia, who have instructed their churches in that state to refrain from this method of religious education because they believe it to be inconsistent with the separation of church and state.

Labeled ineffective

"That released time is of uncertain educational value is supported by Dr. John C. Bennett, of Union Theological Seminary in his book, *Christians and the State*, for he says, 'There is a strong tendency among Protestant leaders to suggest that released time is ineffective and hardly worth much emphasis.'

"Concern about church-and-state developments is reflected in three-year studies being conducted now by the Southern California-Arizona conference of The Methodist Church, one of the conferences of this church in New York state and by the National Council of Churches. These studies are all timed to culminate in 1960.

"The Commission on Christian Social Relations reaffirms the above statements made by the Committee to Study Released Time in 1958 and as a general summary of our convictions we submit the following statement entitled, *Balance Sheet:*" (Excerpts of *Balance Sheet* follow:)

Balance sheet

"Since the United States Supreme Court acted on released time religious education some years ago, inconsistencies within the frame of its operation have caused thoughtful people to realize that the fullest stature of the church is not reflected in this method of religious training. Some of these inconsistencies are presented herewith.

"Supporters of released time have stated that it helps to cement community relationships, advance the ecumenical effort, facilitate church administration and widen church outreach. We question the wisdom of using our children as grist for solving the churches' problems nor would we use the machinery of the public school to facilitate these matters.

"Though ruled as being constitutional, overtones of the church and state permeate released time's operation, preventing its full acceptance. Mr. Robey B. Tapp, professor of theology at St. Lawrence University, brings this to our attention when he reminds us that if the State is to remain free it must avoid alliance with any of its several faiths.

In addition he shows that though the court's ruling may make any practice technically legal, it may be neither wise nor moral."

. . . . . .

"With parents and youth cooperating in church activities families and churches will gain strength, building programs along lines of their own particular needs. This will be harder to do than assigning pupils to released time, but the gains will be more lasting and the method more appropriate."

Theological professors commend church leaders

Professors from 11 Methodist theological schools met at the Garrett Biblical Institute in Evanston, Ill., October 31 to November 1.

At the meeting, which was sponsored by the three General Boards of Social and Economic Relations, Temperance, and World Peace, the professors commended church leaders "for supporting consistently pastors in local churches whose loyal adherence to official Methodist positions on controversial issues have subjected them to various pressures."

The resolution expresses the hope that churchmen "will help to maintain Methodism's historic emphasis of the pulpit."

The resolution, signed by professors from the 11 schools reads as follows:

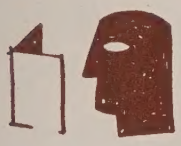
"We the undersigned members of faculties of Methodist theological seminaries wish to record our deep appreciation of the Methodist heritage of prophetic preaching and of the courage of previous General Conferences in their farsighted statements of social concern.

"We therefore respectfully memorialize the General Conference of 1960 to adopt the following resolution:

"Many bishops, district superintendents, ministers, official boards, and laymen have supported consistently pastors in local churches whose loyal adherence to official Methodist positions on controversial issues have subjected them to various pressures. We commend these churchmen for their courage and insight and express the hope that they and others will help to main Methodism's historic emphasis on freedom of the pulpit.

"We call the attention of the laity to the responsibility of our bishops, district superintendents, and other connectional leaders to support our ministers in their responsible exercise of a free pulpit and their adherence to the official positions of The Methodist Church."

. . . at your service



BOOKS

On The Brink—by Jerome Davis and General Hugh B. Hester; Lyle Stuart, publisher, 225 Lafayette St., New York 12, N. Y.; $2.95.

In an interesting and moving style *On The Brink* portrays our nearness to war due to outmoded policy, and describes far-sighted steps leading to peace and progress.

The authors attempt three tasks. At the outset they realistically depict the world situation. Then they turn to analyze current myths in international affairs which are false foundations of present policy.

Finally, they propose precise solutions in fields such as foreign aid, cooperative co-existence, international relations and the application of science to social and political problems.

The strength of the book lies in its challenge more than in a detailed analysis. One interesting feature from the publisher is to refund the purchase price when 10 of your friends sign the jacket to show that they have read the book. —D.E.T.

The Communist Challenge to American Business—by Clarence B. Randall, published by Little Brown, available through local bookstores, $3.50.

Contact readers interested in industrial relations are urged to read this new book. Randall is the retired board chairman and president of the Inland Steel Company. This book is an interesting account of his life in big business.

A quotation from the book shows some of the character and color it portrays:

"The number of times in my life when I have done an about-face on social questions so astounds me, as I look over my shoulder, that I am led to counsel younger men not to lock themselves in too hard on those favorite biases which we form so readily between 20 and 40."

The Ohio AFL-CIO's newsletter was so astounded by this novel, that they devoted almost a full page in their monthly newsletter to review parts of this book.

International Cooperation and Peace—booklet, by Albin Johansson, former president to the Swedish Cooperative Wholesale; purchase from the Cooperative League of the U.S.A., 343 South Dearborn Street, Chicago 4, Ill.; $.75.

Johansson's Swedish background gives him an excellent platform from which to speak. Sweden enjoys a high standard of living, has had no war for over 100 years, and thrives on an economy of free enterprise, state ownership, and cooperatives.

. . . *church action* . . .

The Wisconsin conference Board of Christian Social Relations went all out to promote their second annual institute on Christian Social Concerns held in the Fall.

Included in the promotional materials were a "News Bulletin," a letter to the conference ministers, a letter to the conference Christian Social Relations chairmen, and an "Are you boosting attendence" sheet.

The news bulletin urged: "Bring a car full of concerned Christians from your church and together we'll plan for the year ahead, learn of program resources, find helps for special emphasis Sundays, chart the steps for a successful action project, and grow in understanding."

The program of the Christian Social Concerns conference included speeches, workshops, a skit called "The Perfect Plan," and discussion periods.

The goal of the Social Concerns conference was to find an answer to the question "Why, isn't your church's Commission of Christian Social Relations more effective?" It's aim was to help the local church's program of Christian Social Relations.

CALENDAR

Christian social relations events on the national, regional and annual conference level will be listed in the space below.

Suggestions for calendar items may be sent to the CONTACT editor.

December

1-4—North Mississippi Temperance Institutes; Greenville (Trinity), Clarksdale (First), Oxford, Senatobia respectively.

4-6—"Go-See Youth and Alcohol Studies weekend, Detroit conference.

8-11—Division of Home Missions Assembly, Ambassador Hotel, Atlantic City, N. J.

15-16—Midwest regional meeting on food surpluses, agricultural policy, and World Peace; Oskaloosa, Iowa.

29-30—Two district schools of Alcohol Studies; First Methodist Church, Texarkana, Ark.

January

14-16—Texas Methodist Conference on Industrial Relations.

18—Board of Missions annual meeting, Buck Hill Falls, Pa.

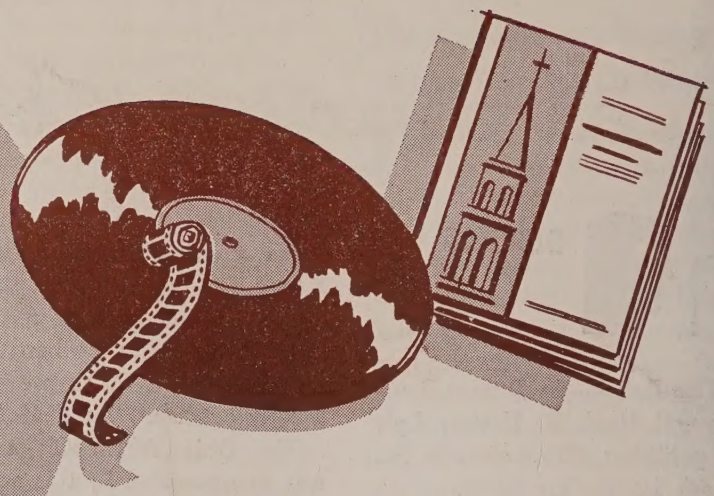
19-20—Mississippi Rehabilitation seminars, Louisville, Miss.

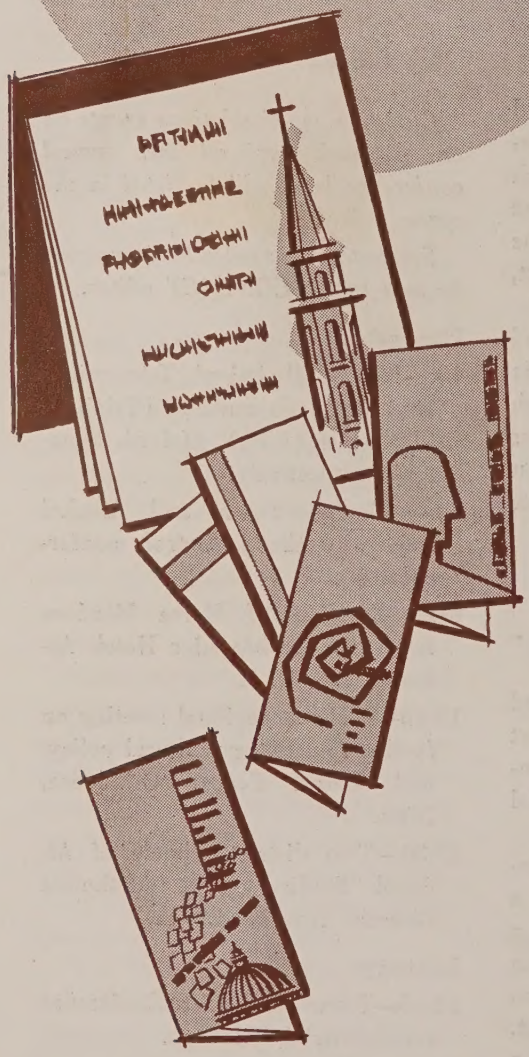
24-30—Detroit conference United Nations and Washington seminar.

27-29—Board of Temperance annual meeting, Washington, D. C.

NEW! for YOU

a Christian Social Relations leader





The following materials have been prepared jointly by three World Service agencies of The Methodist Church – General Board of Social & Economic Relations, General Board of Temperance, General Board of World Peace.

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR? 32 page handbook for the Commission on Christian Social Relations	$.25
NEW KIND OF BUILDING 35mm color filmstrip with 33⅓ rpm record, script & leader's guide	$6.00
YOUR CHURCH SERVES THE COMMUNITY & WORLD 25 page turnover chart spelling out issues and action for Commission on Christian Social Relations	$10.00
REGISTER CHRISTIAN OPINION leaflet listing U. S. Congressmen and Senators with committee assignments. Suggests action on national issues	$.10 $7.50 per 100 copies
SOCIAL ACTION PACKET selection of resource leaflets for local church Commission on Christian Social Relations	$.10 10c each in quantity
THE SOCIAL CREED statement of the official position of The Methodist Church on specific social issues	$.03 $1.50 per 100 copies
CONTACT a twice monthly news service for church leaders	$3.00 per year
BISHOP'S MESSAGE a current statement on social issues by the Methodist Council of Bishops	$3.00 per 100 copies

Order these materials for your church from

THE SERVICE DEPARTMENT

The Methodist Building, 100 Maryland Avenue Northeast, Washington 2, D. C.